[30th July 1962

a * 79 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the number of cases admitted in the Government Hospital, Kancheepuram, in the months of September, October and November 1961, for application of forceps and the number of patients who died in the hospital?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: The total number of cases that required application of forceps in the hospital during September, October and November 1961 was 6, 8 and 5, respectively. The number of such patients who died in the hospital was two in October 1961 and one in November 1961.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Sir, may I know whether there is a doctor in that hospital with post-graduate qualifications to deal with and treat cases of these kinds?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: Sir, a separate question may be put.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Is it a fact, Sir, that on account of the hue and cry raised in the town due to increased mortality in that unfortunate hospital, the hospital operation register was torn off and re-written? Have the Government any information on this?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: Sir, Government have no such information. But the information given by the hon. Member will be kept in mind and enquired into.

Pre-school centres

b *92 Q.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of pre-school centres proposed to be started in the State during 1962–63;

(b) whether there is any proposal to feed these children and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the qualification and the nature of training given to the teachers employed in the pre-school centres?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: (a) 500.

(b) Yes, Sir. The children will be given eatables. Milk will also be given. Details regarding this are being worked out.

(c) Trained Thayis will be selected to be in charge of the centres. If no Thayi is available, any other suitable person with a minimum educational qualification of VII Standard (integrated) completed will be selected for training. The training will commence in August 1962. The syllabus and programme for the training are being worked out by the Director of Women's Welfare. The training will be for a period of three months.

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a Question postponed from the list of questions for 4th July 1962.
b Question postponed from the list of questions for 5th July 1962.

30th July 1962]

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know, Sir, what is the general qualification of the present Thayis?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Even people with IV and V Standard qualifications have been selected and appointed.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Are these Thayis recruited for the pre-school children? The Hon. Minister just now stated that if sufficient number of Thayis were not available, they would recruit new ones whose general educational qualifications would not be less than VIII Standard whereas people with only IV and V Standard qualifications have already been appointed.

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Yes, Sir. In view of the previous experience, it may be considered.

Smallpox

a* 93 *Q.*—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that smallpox is prevalent in epidemic form in the fishermen colonies in Kanyakumari district;

(*b*) if so, the number of persons affected and the number of fatal cases, if any; and

(*c*) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENKATACHELLAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Protected water-supply

a* 94 *Q.*—T. V. DEVARAJA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 338 on 1st September 1961—

(*a*) whether the investigation in regard to the provision of protected water-supply to Tiruvannamalai from Penniar has been completed; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Field particulars are being collected.

Tamil Pandits

* 110 S.N. *Q.*—DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state with reference to the statement made by the Minister for Finance on 16th December 1961, the stage at which the question of reducing the hours of work of Tamil Pandits from 17 to 14 now stands?

a Question postponed from the list of questions for 5th July 1962.